

**WHEREAS,** Valerie Herskowitz, Director of Dimensions Therapy in Davie and long time Davie resident, was awarded the Stevie Lifetime Achievement Award for her work with autistic and special needs children at The 2004 Stevie Award Ceremony on Friday, October 22 in New York City; and

**WHEREAS,** Valerie Herskowitz was recognized for her 26 years of service to children with special needs and their families and was chosen from more than 600 nominations from small companies in virtually every industry; and

**WHEREAS,** Valerie was honored for starting two innovative community programs, Mothers of Special Needs Individuals (MOSI) and the Family Club, which provide a night off for mothers of special needs children and monthly get-togethers to enable families to feel comfortable socializing with their special needs children; and

**WHEREAS,** Valerie was recognized for both her responsibilities as the Director of Dimensions Therapy Center, a facility that offers speech and occupational therapy services, and her work as an international lecturer and writer on the topic of special needs children; and

**WHEREAS,** The Stevie Awards for Women Entrepreneurs is a national awards competition recognizing the accomplishments of women small business owners in the United States and is produced by the creators of the prestigious American Business Awards, hailed as “the Business World’s Own Oscars” by the New York Post; and

**WHEREAS,** Valerie is on the adjunct faculty at Nova Southeastern University and is considered to be the premier authority on the use of computer based intervention with special needs individuals; and

**WHEREAS,** Valerie’s interest in special needs is not just professional, her youngest son, Blake, was diagnosed with autism in 1993 when he was two years old.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Davie hereby proclaim Wednesday, November 17, 2004 in the Town of Davie as;

### **Valerie Herskowitz Day**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand this 17th Day of November.

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**Tom Truex, Mayor**

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